



Minutes

The Board of Education Molalla River School District

October 9, 2025

I. BUSINESS MEETING - Molalla River School District Office **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Craig Loughridge called the business meeting to order at 7:00pm and proceeded with the pledge of allegiance.

Board members attending included: Chair Craig Loughridge, Vice Chair Linda Eskridge, Rob Cummings, and Mark Lucht (virtual) and Student Representative Josiah Lopez. Absent: Terrie Stafford, Neal Lucht, Amy McNeil

MRSD Administrators present: Dr. Tony Mann/Superintendent, Andrea Watson/Director of Communications, Andy Campbell/Chief Financial Officer, Jennifer Ellis/Assistant Supt, Director of Human Resources, Tamara Jackson/Director of Teaching & Learning, Dr. Ron Stewart/Capital Projects Manager, Tony Tiano/Facilities Supervisor, Chris Shaw/Technology Director, Dr. Robin Shobe/Director of Student Services, Larry Conley/Principal Rural Dell Elementary, Les Womack/Principal Molalla Elementary, Cathy Mitchell/Principal Mulino Elementary, Christy Newman/Principal Clarkes Elementary, Randy Dalton/Principal Molalla River Middle School, and Lauree Nelzen/Executive Administrative Assistant

Also present: Miki Bragg/OTAK

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

B. CONSIDER CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

C. STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Mr. Josiah Lopez commented on high school events from the beginning of September through present. He stated students were excited and very engaged on the first day of school. He attended the Tri-Valley kickoff meeting for all leadership students to collaborate with other schools and their leadership programs. He stated he met some great people. He listed the National Honor Society leadership roles for this year and gave an update to Rush Week and the success of the clubs and activities that participated. He commented on Homecoming Week, the parade today and the Dance is on Saturday. He also updated the board on Fall Sports and the kickoff assembly, where he gave a speech to the student body. He thanked the Board for their work.

D. ACTION ITEMS

1. Consent Agenda – September Meeting minutes, personnel report

Mr. Cummings made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Mark Lucht seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously by a roll call – 4 ayes, no nays, no abstentions.

2. *Recommendation for Approval – GMP Contract for the Middle School Project*

Dr. Ron Stewart gave an update to the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) with Pence Construction. He stated it is within our budget, and he recommends the approval. Ms. Miki Bragg gave an update on the overall middle school project: the construction documents are 100% complete and being finalized. She stated the Early Work Package #1 (EWA) was a large cost savings incorporated into the GMP price. Great weather helped that process. Ms. Bragg stated they hope to have the building pad and early utility work done by the end of the month. She also stated there is a public hearing next Wednesday for the District's Land Use Application. There was discussion about the pre-construction cost approval from January. Vice Chair Eskridge made a motion to approve the GMP Contract. Mr. Cummings seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously by a roll call – 4 ayes, no nays, no abstentions.

E. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

1. *Financial Review*

Mr. Andy Campbell gave a monthly financial review. He discussed current enrollment numbers, which are close to the projected numbers. Mr. Campbell also discussed the recent request from the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) regarding a 5% mid-year reduction in the State School Fund (SSF), which is not a common occurrence. There was discussion about how that would impact the District, and how Mr. Campbell is monitoring the ODE news and keeping an eye on current spending. There was also a discussion regarding the Federal Government Shutdown and local impacts.

Mr. Campbell also gave an update to the middle school bond finances based on the GMP contract.

There was discussion about ODE and why the mid-year reduction for schools, and Mr. Campbell and Dr. Mann stated they are confident in the District's current financial situation to deal with the reduction. There were no further questions.

2. *Human Resources Presentation*

Ms. Jennifer Ellis stated a community member had asked about paying student teachers in a previous meeting, so she felt it was a good opportunity to speak to the Board about the District's programs. She stated the District supports current staff to gain endorsements. She commented on the study group for instructional assistants (IA) to become highly qualified (HQ) for Title I requirements. She also stated the District has an in-house First Aid/CPR/AED instructor in Amanda Bickford, School Nurse.

Ms. Ellis commented on the Grow-Your-Own program for IAs, which allows IAs to pursue teaching degrees and compensating them on the tuition costs.

She stated Student teachers are not paid, but the District supports health insurance benefits while they are working.

There was discussion about recruiting and retaining staff, and the programs' success in that. There were no further questions.

F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Mann discussed the change in Department reports. He stated the Department reports will be presented in a binder during his Superintendent's report, and that Directors are present if there are questions about a particular report. He stated the Homecoming Football Game is this Friday, and

teacher negotiations are very close to wrapping up with two articles left to a tentative agreement. He discussed the upcoming work session topics, and thanked Dr. Ron Stewart for his work on the middle school project. He gave an update to Outdoor School for the District this year, and the reduction in funding from the state. Mr. Chris Shaw discussed the installation of the new panic buttons at the high school, and the upcoming testing of the new bell/PA system as well.

G. BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Cummings commented on the progress at the middle school and sports teams praying at events. Mr. Lopez thanked everyone for their work and is grateful to be part of the team. Vice Chair Eskridge commented on her recent baptism. Chair Loughridge thanked Mr. Lopez for his attendance and report.

H. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- October 23rd work session at 7pm at the District Office
- October 29th policy committee meeting at 7pm at the District Office
- November 13th business meeting at 7pm at the District Office

I. ADJOURN

Vice Chair Eskridge made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Cummings seconded the motion and Chair Loughridge adjourned the meeting at 7:48pm.

Chair

Superintendent

Board Secretary